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connection with those which drew them out. Nevertheless, as in the case just cited, the letters here published fill out gaps in correspondence previously printed elsewhere, and are therefore of value to the student of the period. Taken all in all however the volume is not up to the standard of Mr. Rose's previous work. It unfortunately leaves the impression of mere book-making—of using material for which no suitable place was found either in his earlier work on Napoleon, or in his more recent volumes on Pitt.

EPHRAIM D. ADAMS.

Mémoires et Documents inédits sur la Révolution Belge et la Campagne de Dix-Jours (1830–1831). Recueillis et annotés par le Baron CAMILLE BUFFIN, Avocat. In two volumes. (Brussels: Kiessling et Cie. 1912. Pp. 650.)

THESE two volumes, issued under the auspices of the Royal Historical Commission of Belgium, contain about twelve hundred pages of hitherto unpublished material upon the Belgian Revolution of 1830 and upon the brief campaign of 1831 which followed upon the success of that movement and in which King William I. tried to win back his southern provinces, only to be checked by France and by diplomacy. These documents are of unequal value and of fragmentary character. They give no complete account of the revolution but light up many points of detail in the history of the times. Most of them are from the pens of military men and have to do mainly with military or semi-military events or plans. Political movements and diplomatic measures occupy a less prominent place; indeed the latter hardly appear at all. Considerable parts of the military documents are of a formal, statistical nature, of interest to the professional military historian but of slight value to the political historian. The latter will however be abundantly rewarded for a careful examination of these volumes. He will find in them valuable evidence concerning the spontaneous and powerful insurgence of national feeling, and illustrating the rapid spread of the spirit of revolt from Brussels to other towns, large and small. He will perceive the fundamental unwisdom of the Congress of Vienna in thinking that states can be artificially created and can endure, in spite of history, race, and sentiment, an error for which the practical men of Vienna had for years been reproaching the French revolutionists and Napoleon. The political historian will not get from these documents any light on the work of the Belgian revolutionists in the construction of new national institutions, in the elaboration of a new fundamental law, in the inauguration of a new monarchy in Europe. Nor will he gain any new insight into the causes of the revolution, for the narratives do not go back to causes but begin with the Brussels riots of August, 1830.

The first of the two volumes contains unpublished memoirs of three men who participated very actively and in important ways in the events

of 1830, Baron Chazal, General Pletinckx, and General Monceau. Chazal, a young man of twenty-two, son of a former *conventionnel* of France, threw himself impetuously into the insurrection of Brussels, was intrusted with important missions by his colleagues of the revolutionary junta, and discharged them with ability and dash. His narrative, graphic, enthusiastic, and characterized by much self-complacency, is significant as showing how important cities like Mons and Antwerp were brought into the general movement (I. 33-272). Pletinckx was the real organizer of the *garde bourgeoise* of Brussels at the outbreak of the revolution and his account throws some light upon events in the capital in August and September, 1830 (I. 293-406). General Monceau was aide-de-camp to the Prince of Orange, son of the King of the Netherlands, and as such was in constant attendance upon him. The extracts from his memoirs are extremely interesting and important. He accompanied the prince to Brussels and Antwerp during the troubles of 1830. His point of view was that of an instinctive defender of the established order. For him insurrectionists were nothing but *canaille*, *gens à l'aspect sinistre*, and members of parliament were nothing but *ces messieurs*. But he possessed very unusual powers of rapid and accurate observation. His account of the prince's visit to Brussels is remarkable. He noted instantaneously and with apparent discrimination every manifestation of popular feeling favorable or unfavorable to the prince and to the government, and recorded all with such directness, such objectivity, and such evident fidelity to the truth, that his narrative constitutes a valuable historical source (I. 412-558).

The second volume contains extracts from the journal of General Constant Rebecque, chief of staff of the army of the Netherlands; a long contemporary account, in Dutch, of events in Antwerp from August 28, 1830, to May 1, 1831; and various other documents.

The editor of these volumes has done his work well. Biographical sketches of the men whose memoirs he publishes, brief biographical notes concerning the lesser personages mentioned in the course of the narrative, and an admirable index of personal names add to the usefulness of this work. It would have been increased still further, had he given us information as to when and under what conditions the various memoirs were composed, facts essential to any final and authoritative appreciation of their historical value, and in regard to which we are left entirely in the dark.

CHARLES DOWNER HAZEN.

La Révolution de Février: Étude Critique sur les Journées des 21, 22, 23, et 24 Février 1848. Par ALBERT CRÉMIEUX, Agrégé d'Histoire et Géographie, Docteur ès Lettres. [Bibliothèque d'Histoire Moderne.] (Paris: Édouard Cornély et Cie. 1912. Pp. 535.)

THE French Revolution of 1848 has been greatly and variously